urged Government for import of 20,000 tonnes of natural rubber through State Trading Corporation for small scale units in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the details about indigenous rubber production in tonnes; and

(c) whether Government have taken measures to control artificial shortage of rubber and high prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) As the production of natural rubber during 2005-06 exceeded the domestic consumption, there was no shortage of natural rubber in the country. The production of Natural Rubber was 803,230 tonnes (approx.) in 2005-06.

As the price of Natural Rubber in the international market is much higher than the domestic price, the request of All India Rubber Industries Association for import of NR through State Trading Corporation did not appear to be feasible proposition.

The increase in rubber prices in India is on account of increased prices in the international market. However, the price increase in the domestic market has been less as compared to the international market.

Winding up of irrelevant bodies

2571. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the Boards and other bodies under the jurisdiction of his ministry related to trade, exports and export promotions and the locations of their headquarters;

(b) whether any review would be done to reduce the number of such bodies;

(c) whether it is a fact that many such bodies are actually a drain on public resources and public time; and

(d) the steps proposed by Government to wind up such bodies which are irrelevant today?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (b) The names of the Boards

and other bodies under the jurisdiction of Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry relating to trade, export and export promotion and locations of their headquarters is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No such review is proposed.

(d) No, Sir. All organisations are carrying out useful activities for the trade promotion.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Names of Boards and other bodies under jurisdiction of M/o Commerce and Industry relating to trade, export and export promotion

PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS

1. Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd.,
   Express Towers, P.B. No. 373,
   Nariman Point, Mumbai-400021
2. MMTC Ltd.,
   Core No 1, Scope Complex-7,
   Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
3. PEC Ltd.,
   "Hansalaya" 15, Barakhamba Road,
   New Delhi-110001
   Subsidiary of PEC

3(i) Tea Trading Corporation Ltd.,
   7, Wood Street, Kolkata-700016

4. State Trading Corporation of India,
   Jawahar Vyapar Bhavan, Tolstoy Marg,
   New Delhi 110001
   Subsidiary of STC

4.(i) STCL Ltd.,
   166/2, 13th Main Road Vasanthnagar,
   Bangalore-560052

5. India Trade Promotion Organisation,
   Pragati Maidan, Mathura Road,
   New Delhi

COMMODITY BOARDS

1. Coffee Board,
   1, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Veedhi,
   Bangalore-560001

2. Rubber Board,
   Sub-Jail Road, P.B. No. 1122, Kottayam-686002

3. Spices Board,
   Sugandha Bhavan, N.H. Bypass,
   PB-2277 Palarivattom, P.O. Cochin-682025

4. Tea Board,
   14, BTM Sarani, Brabourne Road,
   P.B. No. 2172, Kolkata-700001

5. Tobacco Board,
   P.B. No. 322, G.T. Road, Guntur-522004

AUTONOMOUS BODIES

1. Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority,
   NCUI Building, Siri Institutional Area,
   August Kranti Marg, New Delhi-110016

2. Export Inspection Council of India,
   3rd Floor, YMCA Cultural Centre Building,
   1, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi-110001

3. Marine Products Export Development Authority,
   MPEDA House, Panamapilly Avenue,
   Kochi-682036

4. Indian Institute of Packaging,
   B-2, MIDC Area, P.B. Nos. 9432 Andheri (East),
   Mumbai-400096

OTHER ORGANISATIONS

1. Federation of Indian Export Organisations;
   PHD House, August Kranti Marg,
   Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016

2. Indian Council of Arbitration,
   Federation House,
   Tansen Marg, New Delhi

3. Indian Diamond Institute,
   Katargam GIDC, Sumul Dairy Road, Katargam,
   P.B. No. 508, Surat, 395008 (Gujarat)

EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCILS

1. Chemexcil,
   Jhansi Castle, 4th Floor, 7, Cooperage Road,
   Mumbai-400039

2. CAPEXIL, Vanijya Bhawan
   International Trade Facilitation Centre,
   1/1 Wood Street, 3rd Floor, Kolkata-700016

3. Cashew Export Promotion Council,
   P.B. No. 1709, Chittor Road, Ernakulam South,
   Cochin- 682016

4. Council for Leather Exports
   No. 1, CMDA Tower II, III floor,
   Gandhi Irwin Road, Egmore, Chennai-600 008

5. Engineering Export Promotion Council, Vanijya Bhawan
   International Trade Facilitation Centre,
   1/1 Wood Street, 1st Floor, Kolkata- 700016

6. Germs & Jewellery Export Promotion Council,
   Diamond Plaza, 5th Floor, 391-A,
   Dr. D. Bhadkamkar Marg, Mumbai-400004

7. Project Exports Promotion Council of India (PEPC),
   H-118, Himalya House, 11th Floor,
   23-Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110001

8. Plastics Export Promotion Council,
   Crystal Tower, Ground Floor,
   Gundiwali Road, No. 3, Opp. Sir MV Road,
   Andheri (East) Mumbai-400069

9. Sport Goods Export Promotion Council,
1-E/6, Swami Ram Tirth Nagar,
Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi-110055

10. Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZ Units,
705, Bhikaji Cama Bhawan,
Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110 066

11. Pharmexcil
101, Aditya Trade Centre,
Ameerpeth, Hyderabad-500 038.

Steps to protect interest of arecanut producers

2572. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Karnataka is the leading producer of arecanut in the country in terms of area, quantity and quality;

(b) whether inferior quality arecanut is smuggled into the country in larger quantity from Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Thailand;

(c) if so, details thereof;

(d) whether such smuggling is adversely affecting the interest of indigenous arecanut producers; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Centre to protect their interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) No authentic information is available on smuggling of inferior quality of arecanut into the country. However, in order to prevent illegal entry of arecanut into the country, necessary instructions to the customs officials have been issued by the Ministry of Finance.

India's share in world export of tobacco

2573. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the share of India in world export of Tobacco during the years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 upto 28th February, 2006 and whether there is